

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Restriction Requirement

Applicant hereby elects the claims identified by the Examiner as Group I in section 10 on page 6.

As indicated in the section 14 on page 11, based on the election of Group I, claims 1 to 9, 11, 17 to 25 and 27 will be examined.

Further Rejections

In view of the Examiner's comments in section 3 on page 2 that the 35 U.S.C. 101 and 112 objections do not need to be addressed in response to the current Office Action and that they will be reiterated in a future Office Action based on the merits, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the additional insights and respectfully declines to address the rejections at this time.


Deadline for Responding to the Office Action

While the Examiner indicates in paragraph 3 that "applicant is only given one month to respond to the present restriction requirement", the Office Action Summary page indicated that "A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 3 month(s) or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication" (emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant should be entitled to the shortened statutory period being 3 months from the mailing date of the Office Action. As a result of the filing date of the response to the restriction requirement being the date set forth below, a one month extension of time is still required to be paid for responding within one month of the shortened statutory period of three months.

Favorable consideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MSS:mcg